

DUNE DREAM

Kyle MacLachlan plays his boyhood hero from outer space in a blockbuster film

KYLE MacLachlan of Yakima, Washington, was introduced to Paul Atreides of the planet Caladan when he was 14.

The implications were immediate and would change Kyle's life forever.

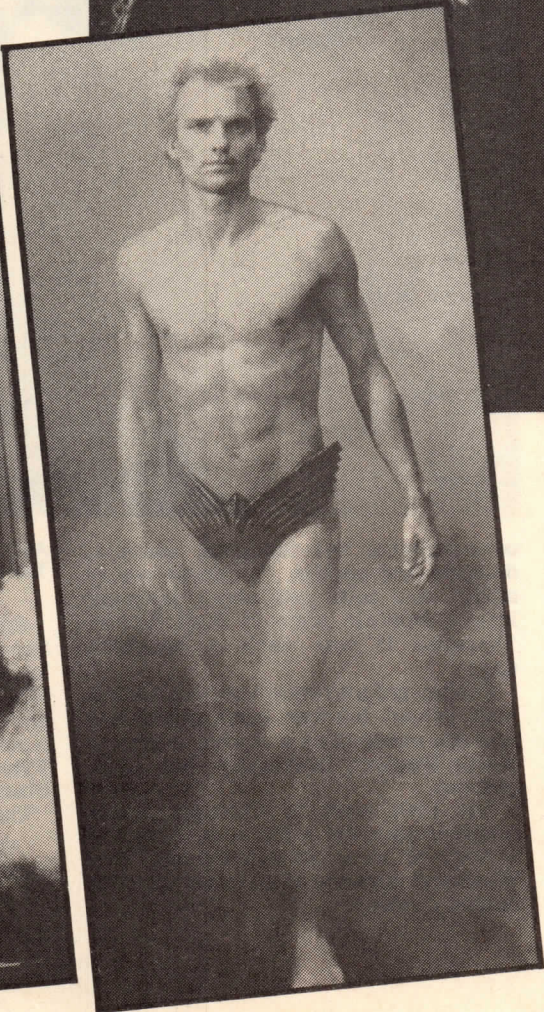
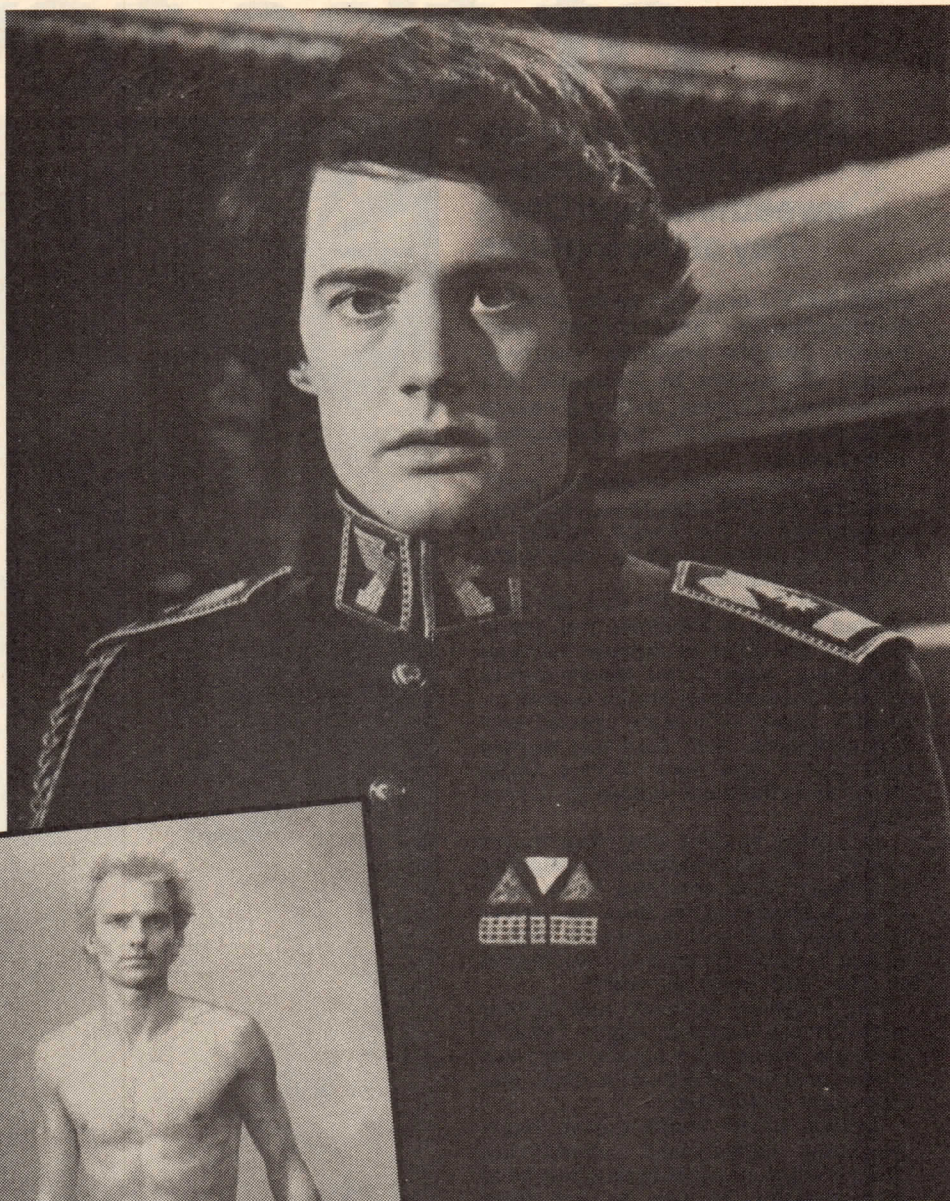
Atreides is the hero of Frank Herbert's *Dune* series, a work that first found print in 1965 and has since been a frequent visitor to bestseller lists around the world.

It is a fiction of science that not only pre-dates *Star Wars* but it was an inspiration to George Lucas.

At its core is the story of a rebel who traverses strange lands, fighting evil and courting good, breathing the thin air of high adventure and heady romance.

When young Kyle MacLachlan read the book, the first thing he did was read it again. He has read a *Dune* book at least once a year since.

The more he read, the more his inner self took on characteristics of Paul Atreides.



ABOVE: Handsome Kyle MacLachlan as Paul Atreides.

FAR LEFT: An inhabitant of Dune (actor Paul Smith) clad in heavy protective gear.

LEFT: Rock star Sting also appears in *Dune*.

Soon he was going to sleep at night dreaming he WAS this hero from another place and time.

Atreides is dispatched from the lush planet Caladan to bring peace and fresh water to the planet Arrakis, which is a source of vital fuel.

But Arrakis, better known as Dune, is in the control of another creature whose evil soul matches the bleakness of the planet.

It is a story of betrayal and courage, love and wonder, played out by extraordinary people racing vehicles of awe

COMES TRUE



ABOVE: Kyle MacLachlan and Sting do battle in a key scene.

across landscapes of inspiration.

Now Australian moviegoers are flocking to discover if it also works as a film.

It might come as a surprise to the people of Yakima to learn that Kyle MacLachlan, at 25, is playing the hero of his youth.

But it is no surprise to Kyle.

"I believe in fate," he says. "I believe if you want something to happen, if you concentrate on it hard enough, then eventually it will come.

"If it doesn't . . . you never wanted it bad enough."

If *Dune* is a dream come true for Kyle, it is a \$30-million exercise in persistence for Rafaella De Laurentiis, Dino's daughter and the movie's producer.

Rafaella settled on David Lynch to direct, figuring that any director who could win an emotional performance from an actor completely covered (as in *The Elephant Man*) would be able to bring life to Herbert's written page.

RIGHT: Producer Rafaella De Laurentiis chose David Lynch to direct.

Many of the players are costumed, a protection against hostile environments, but Lynch had come with the credentials to tune in to body language.

The next smart thing Rafaella did was go to Mexico, where a strong U.S. dollar meant that labor and skilled craftsmen could be hired cheaply.

Kyle MacLachlan says: "Strange to

be playing somebody I always saw myself as being. Yet . . . yet it's not strange, because you ARE what you believe."

Kyle is convinced it was fate that landed him an audition in Seattle when his hero was being cast — that Paul had "called" him. Rafaella might have found HER man in Seattle, but Paul Atreides had found HIS earthling a decade before.

Colin Dangaard in Los Angeles

